

THIS IS THE <u>BEGIN</u>	VING OF ADMINI	ISTRATIVE FINE CASE # <u>275</u>	2
DATE SCANNED	1/15/14		
SCANNER NO.	<u> </u>		•
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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION 2013 JUL 22 PM 2: 31 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

July 22, 2013

MEMORANDUM

SENSITIVE

TO:

The Commission

THROUGH:

Alec Palmer & PCO Staff Director

FROM:

Patricia C. Orrock

Chief Compliance Officer

Debbie Chacona 1 **Assistant Staff Director** Reports Analysis Division

BY:

Kristin DeCarmine/Sari Pickerall

Compliance Branch

SUBJECT:

Withdrawal and Resubmission of Reason To Believe Recommendation - 2013 April Quarterly Report for the

Administrative Fine Program

We are withdrawing the document circulated to the Commission on July 19, 2013 in order to reflect shortened coverage dates for two committees representing candidates participating in special elections

Attached is the list of political committees and their treasurers who failed to file the 2013 April Quarterly Report in accordance with 2 U.S.C. 434(a). The April Quarterly Report was due on April 15, 2013.

The committees listed in the attached RTB Circulation Report failed to file the report. In accordance with the schedule of civil money penalties for reports at 11 CFR 111.43, these committees should be assessed the civil money penalties highlighted on the attached circulation report.

Recommendation

- 1. Find reason to believe that the political committees and their treasurers listed on the RTB Circulation Report violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalties would be the amounts indicated on the RTB Circulation Report.
- 2. Send the appropriate letters.

14092694043

Federal Election Commission Reason to Believe Circulation Report 2013 APRIL QUARTERLY Not Election Sensitive 04/15/2013 H_S_P

RTB Penalt
POP
/ Receipt Date Days Late
Threshold PV
Treasurer
Candidate Name
Committee Name
Committee
7.5

Committee	Committee Name	Candidate Name	Treasurer	Threshold	≧	Threshold PV Receipt Date Days Late	Days Late	ГОА	RTB Penalty
•	· · :				•		·		
	PAM GULLESON FOR NORTH DAKOTA	GULLESON, PAM	JOSEPH KROEBER	\$255,391	0		Not Filed	\$255,391 (est)	\$8,800
2753 C00519231	RAYE FOR CONGRESS	RAYE, KEVIN L	ARTHUR A. COMSTOCK	\$195,175	0		Not Filed	\$195,175 (est)	\$6,050

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

in the Matter of)	
Withdrawal and Resubmission of Reason To Believe Recommendation – 2013 April Quarterly Report for the Administrative Fine Program:)	
PAM GULLESON FOR NORTH DAKOTA, and KROEBER, JOSEPH as)	AF# 2752
treasurer; RAYE FOR CONGRESS, and ARTHUR A)	AF# 2753

CERTIFICATION

I, Shawn Woodhead Werth, Secretary and Clerk of the Federal Election

Commission, do hereby certify that on July 23, 2013 the Commission took the

following actions on the Withdrawal and Resubmission of Reason To Believe

Recommendation – 2013 April Quarterly Report for the Administrative Fine Program

as recommended in the Reports Analysis Division's Memorandum dated July 22,

2013, on the following committees:

4092694045

AF#2752 Decided by a vote of 5-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that PAM GULLESON FOR NORTH DAKOTA, and KROEBER, JOSEPH as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

AF#2753 Decided by a vote of 5-0 to: (1) find reason to believe that RAYE FOR CONGRESS, and ARTHUR A COMSTOCK as treasurer violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and make a preliminary determination that the civil money penalty would be the amount indicated on the report; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Hunter, McGahn II, Petersen, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

Attest:

Date

Shawn Woodhead Werth

Secretary and Clerk of the Commission



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

July 24, 2013

Joseph Kroeber, in official capacity as Treasurer Pam Gulleson for North Dakota P.O. Box 6517 Fargo, ND 58109

C00503284 AF#: 2752

Dear Mr. Kroeber:

The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"), requires that your committee file an April Quarterly Report of Receipts and Disbursements every calendar year. This report, covering the period January 1, 2013 through March 31, 2013, shall be filed no later than April 15, 2013. 2 U.S.C. § 434(a). Records at the Federal Election Commission ("FEC") indicate that this report was not filed within thirty (30) days of the due date. You should file this report if you have not already done so.

The Act permits the FEC to impose civil money penalties for violations of the reporting requirements of 2 U.S.C. § 434(a). 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(4). On July 23, 2013, the FEC found that there is reason to believe ("RTB") that Pam Gulleson for North Dakota and you, in your official capacity as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a) by failing to file timely this report on or before April 15, 2013. Based on the FEC's schedules of civil money penalties at 11 CFR § 111.43, the amount of your civil money penalty calculated at the RTB stage is \$8,800. Please see the attached copy of the Commission's administrative fine regulations at 11 CFR §§ 111.30-111.55. Attachment 1. The Commission's website contains further information about how the administrative fine program works and how the fines are calculated. See http://www.fec.gov/af/af.shtml. 11 CFR § 111.34. Your payment of \$8,800 is due within forty (40) days of the finding, or by September 1, 2013, and is based on these factors:

Sensitivity of Report: Not Election Sensitive

Level of Activity: \$255,391 Number of Days Late: Not Filed

Number of Previous Civil Money Penalties Assessed: 0

At this juncture, the following courses of action are available to you:

1. If You Choose to Challenge the RTB Finding and/or Civil Money Penalty

If you should decide to chahenge the RTB finding and/or calculated civil money penalty, you must submit a written response, including the AF# found at the top of page 1 under your committee's identification number, to the FEC's Office of Administrative Review, 999 E Street,

NW, Washington, DC 20463. Your response must be received within forty (40) days of the Commission's RTB finding, or September 1, 2013. 11 CFR § 111.35(a). Your written response must include the reason(s) why you are challenging the RTB finding and/or calculated civil money penalty, and must include the factual basis supporting the reason(s) and supporting documentation. The FEC strongly encourages that documents be submitted in the form of affidavits or declarations. 11 CFR § 111.36(c).

The FEC will only consider challenges that are based on at least one of three grounds: (1) a factual error in the RTB finding; (2) miscalculation of the calculated civil money penalty by the FEC; or (3) your demonstrated use of best efforts to file in a timely manner when prevented from doing so by reasonably unforeseen circumstances that were beyond your control. 11 CFR § 111.35(b). In order for a challenge to be considered on the basis of best efforts, you must have filed the required report no later than 24 hours after the end of these reasonably unforeseen circumstances. Id. Examples of circumstances that will be considered reasonably unforescen and beyond your control include, but are not limited to: (1) a failure of Commission computers or Commission-provided software despite your seeking teehnical assistance from Commission personnel and resources; (2) a widespread disruption of information transmissions over the Internet that is not caused by a failure of the Commission's or your computer systems or Internet service provider; and (3) severe weather or other disaster-related incident. 11 CFR § 111.35(c). Examples of circumstances that will not be considered reasonably unforeseen and beyond your control include, but are not limited to: (1) negligence; (2) delays caused by vendors or contractors; (3) treasurer and staff illness, inexperience or unavailability; (4) committee computer, software, or Internet service provider failures; (5) failure to know filing dates; and (6) failure to use filing software properly. 11 CFR § 111.35(d).

The "failure to raise an argument in a timely fashlon during the administrative process shall be deemed a waiver" of your right to present such argument in a petition to the U.S. district court under 2 U.S.C. § 437g. 11 CFR § 111.38.

If you intend to be represented by counsel, please advise the Office of Administrative Review. You should provide, in writing, the name, address and telephone number of your counsel and authorize counsel to receive notifications and communications relating to this challenge and imposition of the calculated civil money penalty.

2. If You Choose Not to Pay the Civil Meney Penalty and Not to Submit a Challenge

If you do not pay the ealculated civil money penalty and do not submit a written response, the FEC will assume that the preceding factual allegations are true and make a final determination that Pam Gulleson for North Dakota and you, in your official capacity as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a) and assess a civil money penalty.

Unpaid civil money penalties assessed through the Administrative Fine regulations will be subject to the Debt Collection Act of 1982 ("DCA"), as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, 31 U.S.C. § 3701 et seq. The FEC may take any and all approprinte action authorized and required by the DCA, as amended, including transfer to the U.S. Department of the Treasury for collection. 11 CFR § 111.51(a)(2).

3. If You Choose to Pay the Civil Money Penalty

If you should decide to pay the calculated civil money penalty, send the enclosed remittance form, along with your payment, to the FEC at the address on page 4. Upon receipt of your payment, the FEC will send you a final determination letter.

NOTICE REGARDING PARTIAL PAYMENTS AND SETTLEMENT OFFERS

4. Partial Payments

If you make a payment in an amount less than the calculated civil money penalty, the amount of your partial payment will be credited towards the full civil money penalty that the Commission assesses upon making a final determination.

5. Settlement Offers

If you make a payment in an amount less than the calculated civil money penalty as an offer to settle or compromise a debt owed to the Commission, the offer is herewith rejected despite any restrictive endorsements contained on your check or money order or proposed in correspondence transmitted with your check or money order. Acceptance and deposit or cashing of such a restricted payment does not constitute acceptance of the settlement offer. Payments containing restrictive endorsements will be deposited and treated as a partial payment towards the civil money penalty that the Commission assesses upon making a final determination. All unpaid civil money penalty amounts remaining will be subject to the debt collection procedures set forth in Section 2, above.

This matter was generated based on information ascertained by the FEC in the normal course of carrying out its supervisory responsibilities. 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(2). It will remain confidential in accordance with 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(4)(B) and 437g(a)(12)(A) until it is placed on the public record in accordance with 11 CFR § 111.42, unless you notify the FEC in writing that you wish the matter to be made public.

As noted earlier, you may obtain additional information on the FEC's administrative fine program, including the final regulations, on the FEC's website at http://www.fec.gov/af/af.shtml. If you have questions regarding the payment of the calculated civil money penalty, please contact Sari Pickerall in the Reports Analysis Division at our toll free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5) or (202) 694-1130. If you have questions regarding the submission of a challenge, please contact the Office of Administrative Review at our toll free number (800) 424-9530 (press 0, then ext. 1660) or (202) 694-1660.

On behalf of the Commission,

Ellen L. Weintrand

Ellen L. Weintraub

Chair

ADMINISTRATIVE FINE REMITTANCE & PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS

In accordance with the schedule of penalties at 11 CFR § 111.43, the amount of your civil money penalty ealculated at RTB is \$8,800 for the 2013 April Quarterly Report.

Please mail this remittance with a check or money order made payable to the Federal Election Commission to the following address:

Federal Election Commission P.O. Box 979058 St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

If you choose to send your remittance and payment by courier or overnight delivery, please use this address:

U.S. Bank - Government Lockbox FEC #979058 1005 Convention Plaza Attn: Government Lockbox, SL-MO-C2GL

St. Louis, MO 63101

The remittance and your payment are due by September 1, 2013. Upon receipt of your remittance and payment, the FEC will send you a final determination letter.

PAYMENTS BY PERSONAL CHECK

Personal checks will be converted into electronic funds transfers (EFTS). Your account will be electronically debited for the amount on your check, usually within 24 hours, and the debit will appear on your regular statement. We will destroy your original check and keep a copy of it. In case the EFT cannot be processed for technical reasons, you authorize us to process the copy in lieu of the original check. Should the EFT not be completed because of insufficient funds, we may try to make the transfer twice.

PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN THE PORTION BELOW WITH YOUR PAYMENT

FOR: Pam Gulleson for North Dakota

FEC ID#: C00503284

AF#: 2752

PAYMENT DUE DATE: September 1, 2013

PAYMENT AMOUNT DUE: \$8,800



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463



2013 OCT 29 PM 5: 17

October 29, 2013 SENSITIVE

MEMORANDUM

TO:

The Commission

THROUGH:

Alec Palmer Staff Director

Patricia C. Ocrock
Chief Committee

FROM:

Chief Compliance Officer

Debbie Chacona Assistant Staff Director Reports Analysis Division

BY:

Kristin DeCarmine/Sari Pickerall()

Compliance Branch

SUBJECT:

Administrative Fine Program - Final Determination Recommendation for the

2013 April Quarterly Report

Attached is a list of political committees and their treasurers against which the Commission has found reason to believe (RTB) and assessed proposed civil money penalties calculated at RTB for failure to file or failure to timely file the 2013 April Quarterly Report. These committees have not paid the civil money penalty requested at RTB and have been given at least forty (40) days from the date of the Commission's RTB finding to remit payment.

In accordance with 11 CFR § 111.40, the Commission shall send a final determination notice to those respondents that have not paid the civil money panalty.

For your information, two (2) committees disclosed a level of activity after the RTB finding which would result in a lowered civil money penalty. Of these, one (1) committee will be assessed a civil money penalty at Final Determination (FD) that has been reduced since the RTB finding, and one (1) committee will be assessed a civil money penalty of \$0 at FD. An overview of each of these cases has been provided below.

Pam Gulleson for North Dakota (AF 2752) filed the 2013 April Quarterly Report after the RTB finding and disclosed an actual level of activity which would result in a lowered civil

money penalty than that assessed at RTB. The committee disclosed total receipts and disbursements of \$5,500 (previously estimated to be \$255,391), thus the fine would be lowered from \$8,800 to \$330.

Raye for Congress (AF 2753) filed the 2013 April Quarterly Report after the RTB finding and disclosed no activity (previously estimated to be \$195,175), which would result in no civil money penalty (fine previously assessed to be \$6,050).

RAD Recommendation

- (1) Make a final determination that the political committees and their treasurers on the attached report violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a) and assess the final civil money penalties so indicated.
- (2) Make a final determination that the political committee and its treasurer listed on the attached report with no activity, violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a) and will not be assessed a givil money penalty.
- (3) Send the appropriate letters.

Federal Election Commission
FD Circulation Report Fine Not Paid
2013 APRIL QUARTERLY Not Election Sensitive 04/15/2013 H_S_P

_		_
PV RTB Date RTB Penalty Days Since FD Penalty RTR	\$330	NONE
Days Since RTR	86	86
RTB Penalty	\$8.800	\$6,050
RTB Date	07/23/2013 \$8,800	07/23/2013 \$6,050
δ	0	0
TOA	\$5,500	0\$
Days Late	Not Filed	Not Filed
Receipt Oate Days Late	08/30/2013 Not Filed	09/09/2013
Treasurer	JOSEPH KROEBER	NICHI S. FARNHAM 09/09/2013 Not Filed
Committee	C00503284	C00519231
Candidate Name Committee	GULLESON, PAM C00503284	RAYE, KEVIN L. C00519231
Committee Name Candidate Name	PAM GULLESON FOR NORTH DAKOTA	2753 RAYE FOR CONGRESS
AF#	2752	2753

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of)	
Administrative Fine Program – Final Determination Recommendation for the 2013 April Quarterly Report:)	
PAM GULLESON FOR NORTH DAKOTA, and KROEBER, JOSEPH as)	AF# 2752

CERTIFICATION

I, Shawn Woodhead Werth, Secretary and Clerk of the Federal Election

Commission, do hereby certify that on October 31, 2013 the Commission took the

following actions on the Administrative Fine Program – Final Determination

Recommendation for the 2013 April Quarterly Report as recommended in the Reports

Analysis Division's Memorandum dated October 29, 2013, on the following

committees:

. .

AF#2752 Decided by a vote of 6-0 to: (1) make a final determination that PAM GULLESON FOR NORTH DAKOTA, and KROEBER, JOSEPH as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. 434(a) and assess the final civil money penalty so indicated; (2) send the appropriate letter. Commissioners Goodman, Hunter, Petersen, Ravel, Walther, and Weintraub voted affirmatively for the decision.

Attest:

Nown b(1,2013

Date

Shawn Woodhead Werth

Secretary and Clerk of the Commission



November 5, 2013

Joseph Kroeber, in official capacity as Treasurer Pam Gulleson for North Dakota P.O. Box 6517 Fargo, ND 58109

C00503284 AF#: 2752

Dear Mr. Kroeber:

On July 23, 2013, the Federal Election Commission ("the Commission") found reason to believe ("RTB") that Pam Gulleson for North Dakota and you, in your official capacity as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a) for filing late or failing to file the 2013 April Quarterly Report. By letter dated July 24, 2013, the Commission notified you of the RTB finding and the preliminary civil money penalty calculated at the RTB stage to be \$8,800 in accordance with the schedule of penalties at 11 CFR § 111.43. Within forty (40) days of the FEC's RTB finding, you were required to either transmit payment of the calculated civil money penalty or submit a written response challenging either the RTB finding or the calculated civil money penalty.

The FEC did not receive payment of the calculated civil money penalty or a written response within the time permitted. Since that time, the amount of the civil money penalty has been changed to reflect the actual level of activity of the 2013 April Quarterly Report. The FEC made a final determination on October 31, 2013 that Pam Gulleson for North Dakota and you, in your official capacity as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(a) and assessed a civil money penalty in the amount of \$330 in accordance with 11 CFR § 111.43. The civil money penalty is based on these factors:

Election Sensitivity of Report: Not Election Sensitive

Level of Activity: \$5,500

Number of Days Late: Not Filed (reports not filed within thirty (30) days of the due date are

considered not filed for the purposes of calculating the penalty)

Number of Previous Civil Money Penalties Assessed: 0

At this juncture, the following courses of action are available to you:

1. If You Choose to Appeal the Final Determination and/or Civil Money Penalty

If you choose to appeal the final determination, you should submit a written petition, within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter, to the district court of the United States for the

district in which the committee or you reside, or transact business, requesting that the final determination be modified or set aside. See 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(4)(C)(iii). Your failure to raise an argument in a timely fashion during the administrative process shall be deemed a waiver of the respondents' right to present such argument in a petition to the district court under 2 U.S.C. § 437g. 11 CFR § 111.38.

2. If You Choose Not to Pay the Civil Money Penalty and Not to Appeal.

Unpaid civil money penalties assessed through the Administrative Fine regulations will be subject to the Debt Collection Act of 1982 ("DCA") as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 ("DCIA"), 31 U.S.C. § 3701 et seq. If you do not pay this debt within thirty (30) days (or file a written petition to a federal district court - see below), the Commission will transfer the debt to the U.S. Department of the Treasury ("Treasury") for collection. Within five (5) days of the transfer to Treasury, Treasury will contact you to request payment. Treasury currently charges a fee of 28% of the civil money penalty amount for its collection services. The fee will be added to the amount of the civil money penalty that you owe. Should Treasury's attempts fail, Treasury will refer the debt to a private collection agency ("PCA"). If the debt remains unpaid, Treasury may recommend that the Commission refer the matter to the Department of Justice for litigation.

Actions which may be taken to enforce recovery of a delinquent debt by Treasury may also include: (1) offset of any payments, which the debtor is due, including tax refunds and salary; (2) referral of the debt to agency counsel for litigation; (3) reporting of the debt to a credit bureau; (4) administrative wage garnishment; and (5) reporting of the debt, if discharged, to the IRS as potential taxable income. In addition, under the provisions of DCIA and other statutes applicable to the FEC, the debtor may be subject to the assessment of other statetory interest, penalties, and administrative costs.

In accordance with the DCIA, at your request, the agency will offer you the opportunity to inspect and copy records relating to the debt, the opportunity for a review of the debt, and the opportunity to enter into a written repayment agreement.

3. If You Choose to Pay the Civil Money Penalty

If you should decide to pay the civil money penalty, send the enclosed remittance form, along with your payment, to the address on page 4 within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter.

NOTICE REGARDING PARTIAL PAYMENTS AND SETTLEMENT OFFERS

4. Partial Payments

If you make a payment in an amount less than the civil money penalty, the amount of your partial payment will be credited towards the full civil money penalty that the Commission assessed upon making a final determination.

5. Settlement Offers

If you make a payment in an amount less than the civil money penalty as an offer to settle or compromise a debt owed to the Commission, the offer is herewith rejected despite any restrictive endorsements contained on your cheek or money order or proposed in correspondence

transmitted with your check or money order. Acceptance and deposit or cashing of such a restricted payment does not constitute acceptance of the settlement offer. Payments containing restrictive endorsements will be deposited and treated as a partial payment towards the civil money penalty that the Commission assessed upon making a final determination. All unpaid civil money penalty amounts remaining will be subject to the debt collection procedures set forth in Section 2, above.

The confidentiality provisions at 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(12) no longer apply and this matter is now public. The file will be made a part of the public record pursuant to 11 CFR § 111.42(b). Although the file must be placed on the public record within thirty (30) days from the date of the Commission's notification, this could occur at anytime following certification of the Commission's vote.

If you have any questions regarding the payment of the civil money penalty, please contact Sari Pickerall at Federal Election Commission, 999 E St., NW, Washington, DC 20463, or our toll free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt, press 5) or (202) 694-1130.

On behalf of the Commission,

Ellen L. Weintraul

Ellen L. Weintraub

Chair

ADMINISTRATIVE FINE PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS

In accordance with the schedule of penalties at 11 CFR § 111.43, the civil money penalty is \$330 for the 2013 April Quarterly Report.

This penalty should be paid by check or money order made payable to the Federal Election Commission. It should be sent by mail to:

Federal Election Commission PO Box 979058 St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

If you choose to send your payment by courier or overnight delivery, please use this address:

U.S. Bank - Government Lockbox FEC #979058 1005 Convention Plaza Attn: Government Lockbox, SL-MO-C2GL St. Louis, MO 63101

The form and payment are due within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter.

Payments by Personal Check

Personal checks will be converted into electronic funds transfers (EFTs). Your account will be electronically debited for the amount on the check, usually within 24 hours, and the debit will appear on your regular statement. We will destroy your original check and keep a copy of it. In case the EFT cannot be processed for technical reasons, you authorize us to process the copy in lieu of the original check. Should the EFT not be completed because of insufficient funds, we may try to make the transfer twice.

PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN THE PORTION BELOW WITH YOUR PAYMENT

FOR: Pam Gulleson for North Dakota

FEC ID#: C00503284

AF#: 2752

PAYMENT AMOUNT DUE: \$330

FOR: Pam Gulieson for North Dakota

FEC ID#: C00503284

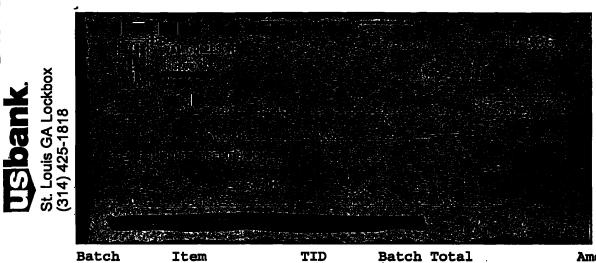
AF#: 2752

PAYMENT AMOUNT DUE: \$330

TOTAL P.005

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Lockbox: GLX-979058 Ledger Date 12/02/2013

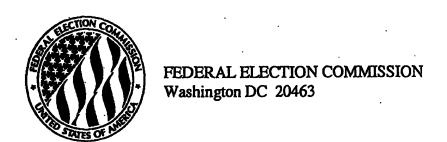


Batch 1 Item 1

Y-3048039

Batch Total \$330.00

Amount \$330.00



THIS IS THE END OF	ADMINISTRATIVE FINI	ECASE # 2752
DATE SCANNED	1/15/14	
SCANNER NO.	<u> </u>	
SCAN OPERATOR	ΣΣr	•